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STILL ADVANCING

SUNDAY REPUBLIC
December, 1905, Average

140,072

This is an increase of 15,027 over Sunday average December, 1904.

It's The Republic Everywhere In the Homes of St. Louis.

FAST MAIL NECESSITY.

The Post-Office Department has taken one step in the direction of an improved mail service between St. Louis and the Southwest. This step contemplates a full postal service by early morning train from St. Louis to Monett, a town close to the southwestern extremity of Missouri. The Frisco Railroad system, on whose application the department has acted, recently made request for a full service from St. Louis to Sherman, Tex., with a branch service from Monett to Neodesha in Kansas, involving a great territory with which St. Louis, the natural market, has no adequate mail facilities. For reasons on which the department has acted, it has been determined that the request of the Frisco System for the complete service asked for cannot at this time be granted. The department is willing, however, to concede a part of the railroad company's demand and allow a full service from St. Louis to Monett.

While it is a fact that, on the theory that half a loaf is better than no bread, the Monett proposition has its value, it is yet a fact that the department will do well to look into the situation much more fully before determining, finally, that the Frisco is to have no fast mail service into the heart of the Southwest.

The group of counties about Springfield, undoubtedly St. Louis territory, have no quick service for St. Louis business mails and newspapers. It is night in Springfield before half of the day's mail gets to that prosperous town over the only direct line. Business mails that ought to be delivered at noon are of necessity held until the next day. The southeastern counties of Kansas, associated with St. Louis in a business way, have need for a better mail service from their metropolis. The western counties of Arkansas, all patrons of St. Louis, need prompter and faster mail trains from this city.

Further down, to the Southwest, in the very heart of the new country, every depot platform is laden with goods from St. Louis mercantile houses and factories, yet there is no fast, early morning train out of St. Louis that will land letters and newspapers in the thriving towns of that region with the promptness that is enjoyed by towns similarly situated in territory that belongs to Chicago and Kansas City.

Every business enterprise in St. Louis has a vital interest in this proposition to get a better mail service over the Frisco. The greatest of the new territories lies that way, and the natural market for all of this rapidly growing region is here in St. Louis. Fast mail service is absolutely essential, not only to the development of this vast trade but to the retention of that which has been built up.

The Post-Office Department has put it up to the Frisco System to inaugurate the beginning of a Southwestern fast mail service, and there is good reason for believing that the enterprising management of that railroad will not fail of its full duty to this, its most important center; but the line to Monett will not be sufficient, and it is in proof of this statement that every effort must be made by the St. Louis business interests to bring conviction to the Post-Office Department.

POOR MAN'S PARADISE.

"Southwest Texas is the poor man's opportunity, and he is finding it out," declares Mr. Jeff N. Miller, who is vice president of the St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexican road and an active promoter of development in that part of Texas lying between the Gulf of Mexico and the lower course of the Rio Grande.

From the numbers of homeseekers who have visited the region, and the letters of inquiry received daily, Mr. Miller expects a great influx of new people during the winter and spring, and he predicts that within five years the great ranches there will have been replaced by villages and small farms.

The prediction will doubtless be fulfilled, for with irrigation from the Rio Grande, and from its numerous artesian wells, the region is ideal for early market gardening, while sugar cane is said to grow there more abundantly with less frequent replanting than in any other part of the United States.

HAPPY ST. LOUIS AND THE SOUTHWEST.

An eloquent testimonial to the prosperity and progress of St. Louis and the Southwest is given in the record of the year's transactions of St. Louis banks and trust companies.

The great prosperity and increasing business of these institutions has been the theme of more than one discourse of late and the explanation given for it by the bankers themselves is, mainly, the increased business of St. Louis resulting from the great prosperity and rapid growth of the Southwest.

St. Louis is, indeed, borne steadily upward and forward by the mighty impulse of Southwestern development which grows stronger year by year and which will recreate the magnificent domain lying between St. Louis and the Rio Grande before it ceases to gain force.

A new empire is rising in that region, and it is rising fast. Looking only at the country west of the Mississippi there are already considerably more than ten millions of people in the four States of Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas and in the Indian Territory and Oklahoma. Probably the full number is nearer twelve millions.

They are all employed in gainful occupations and are prosperous as they never were before. Their staple crops of cotton, sugar and rice are enough to make their farmers rich, and their agriculture is experiencing a diversification which promises in no great time to make its side products more valuable than its staples.

But agriculture is only the foundation of a greater industrial prosperity that is coming. New mines and factories are brought into operation every year, and though these industries are still in their infancy they show all the signs of lusty growth. When, fully developed, they add their contributions to those of agriculture, the wealth of the Northeast will be like poverty by comparison with the wealth of the Southwest.

The entire Southwest, like the Southeast, pulses with a new life and ambition which are inspiring. The people are just waking fully to the immense possibilities of their incomparable domain—the as yet almost untouched resources of its agriculture, its timber and its minerals, its wealth of raw materials for manufacturing industries and its advantages for converting them at home.

The old, quiet contentment with the riches of the soil is gone, and the Southwest is stirring to get cotton mills, to convert its timber into wagons, furniture and utensils, to uncover its deposits of coal, zinc and iron. It is headed straight for an era of industrial and commercial activity that will build new cities and double and quadruple the population of old ones. And chief of them all will be St. Louis.

What the growth of the Southwest has done for St. Louis in the last year or two is partly shown in the increase by $32,000,000 of the city's bank assets since 1903 and in the increase of more than a quarter of a million dollars in its bank dividends over those of the World's Fair year, by the increase of $104,000,000 in bank clearings over the totals of 1904 and of $387,000,000 over those of 1903.

While New York is begging for money, St. Louis already has eight or ten millions of dollars loaned there, and the Southwest is sending up to us other millions. New York may go on being the financial clearing-house, but St. Louis is fast becoming the center of the country's real wealth.

STATEHOOD AND SUGAR.

The omnibus statehood bill and the Philippines tariff bill will probably occupy much of the time of the House after the holidays, for on both measures there are Republican insurgents who want to make trouble.

It is true that enough of the statehood insurgents have promised to be good to satisfy the Speaker that the Hamilton bill will go through without much obstruction, but the reconvening of Congress is likely to find the sugar insurgents still in rebellious mood.

For this reason, it is said, Speaker Cannon desires that the statehood bill be taken up first. Acting upon Mr. Tawney's advice the insurgents will probably not make much of a fight against it in the House, but if Senator Foraker and Senator Beveridge adhere to their declarations already made, there will be a stubborn fight in the Senate over the omnibus bill which Beveridge will report from the Committee on Territories.

With Mr. Beveridge swearing that no other statehood bill shall pass the Senate, and Mr. Foraker swearing as emphatically that the Beveridge bill shall not pass, there may be a long deadlock. Every Western and Southwestern Senator in Washington will best represent his constituents by joining forces with Senator Foraker to drive Mr. Beveridge from the false position he has assumed.

The case of the Twin Territories is wholly different from that of Arizona and New Mexico, and they should be presented separately. Mr. Beveridge's domineering effort to drag them in as one State is an outrage which upon every consideration of political decency ought to be defeated.

TO BREAK OUR COTTON MONOPOLY.

At the conference of the Southern Cotton Association to be held in New Orleans next month it will be worth while to give some attention to the often repeated stories that foreign buyers of cotton are looking anxiously about the world for other sources of supply.

The advancing prices of the American crop and the uncertainties growing out of the speculative manipulation make them anxious to be independent of us. This they probably will not be able to accomplish, for nowhere but in the cotton belt of the United States has good cotton yet been grown in sufficient quantities. Egyptian cotton is better than ours, but there is not enough of it. The short-staple cotton of India is not so good.

But our foreign customers are doing their best to break our monopoly. In retaliation for our high tariff against her manufactured goods, Germany would rather get her cotton anywhere else. She buys from us only because she must. If she can develop the cotton-growing industry in her African colonies she will certainly do it.

The principal business before the November meeting of the British Cotton Growing Association, as we learn from a consular report, was soliciting funds to carry on the work of cotton growing in the British colonies. At this meeting it was reported that cotton is raised in every available part of the world under British influence.

Ten thousand bales were received from one district in British Africa last year, but the present year's report will show a large increase. In the West Indies the association has distributed twenty-eight gold and silver medals to growers, and the Government has agreed to give diplomas to stimulate the production of cotton there and the natives are to be financed in their planting operations.

It does not seem likely that England or Germany can ever get all the cotton it needs from any other source but America, but there is no telling what may be the outcome of their persistent efforts. It is best not to push them too hard.

We can retain our monopoly by a fair adjustment of relations between spinner and grower. In considering the question of acreage to be planted in 1906, members of the New Orleans conference may well ask one another whether it is not better policy to aim at moderate profit on a crop large enough for all needs than at a large profit on a crop that yields hardly enough.

The ideal condition of the cotton-growing industry would be attained if the planters could ascertain the quantity of cotton that will be needed, grow that much and hold it for fair prices. This can never be done exactly, but it may be approximated, the only factor in the problem entirely uncertain being the nature of the crop season.

In its adaptability to cotton growing, the South has an asset of such enormous value that it should be husbanded with long-headed foresight. The aim should be to make a crop of 20,000,000 bales at as good a profit per bale as that now earned by a crop of 10,000,000 or 12,000,000 bales. The way the world's demand for cotton is growing now it can be done in no great while by pursuing a wise and well-informed policy.

From the annual report of the Panama Canal Commission it appears that most of the food for the 17,000 men employed there is carried from New York in the commission's steamers, which are fitted with refrigerator plants for perishable products. The base of supply would not be so far away if the ships sailed from New Orleans, especially since most of the meats and breadstuffs they carry are grown in the Mississippi Valley.

The holiday teachers' meetings of Missouri, Arkansas and Texas all show that the "controlling passion for education" is as strong in the Southwest as in the Middle West. Many of the addresses in these meetings give evidence that while much has been done the teachers are not satisfied to stop where they are. Their appeals for still greater efficiency in the public-school system should bring results.

Secretary Shaw's appeal to Western bankers to have mercy on Wall street hath a strange and unfamiliar sound. But as the greater part of the wealth of the country is created this side of the Alleghany Mountains it is not so strange that we have of late had a great deal of money to lend to Wall street, and the financiers in that alley ought to have known that we would want it back.

The discovery of a second rich vein of nearly pure graphite in Crawford County, Arkansas, means another industry for the Western part of the State, which is already affected with an acute case of boom fever threatening to become chronic.

RECENT COMMENT

The Movement for American Music.

Harper's Weekly.

There is no more singular phase of musical life in America than the inconsistency of our attitude toward native effort. It is no exaggeration to say that millions of dollars are spent annually upon the education of American musicians; yet, once their education is complete and they are fitted to undertake creative work, these musicians whom we train so assiduously find themselves in the anomalous and disheartening situation of producers without a market; for we deny them practically any opportunity for hearing their works performed. Occasionally someone graciously sings an American song, but how many times, during a musical season that lasts for half a year, does one hear an American sonata or orchestral score performed?

The embargo affects both American composers of acknowledged ability and those younger writers whose worth awaits general recognition; against the first it operates by practically ignoring whatever achievements they may have put to their credit; against the second by refusing them any opportunity to demonstrate their capacities.

One need hold no indiscriminate brief for American music to lament these things. It is possible to deplore them with a full consciousness of the fact that weak or commonplace music is no better for bearing an American label, and without attempting, in the phrase of Mr. Philip Hale, to "cover mediocrity with a cloak of patriotism." The point to insist upon is that present conditions in the American musical world, so far as they govern the activity of American composers, are hostile to the development of a vigorous creative art; and that until the situation is bettered, and American works are given a just representation in our concert-rooms, there is need of some form of organized corrective effort. Such an effort is being made by the New Music Society of America, which has recently come into being for the excellent purpose of creating conditions more favorable than the present ones for the artistic activity of the American composer, and with the immediate object of promoting performances of serious new works of native origin. A unique feature of the new organization is that it will have the co-operation of the Russian Symphony Orchestra and its conductor, Mr. Modest Altschuler, the Russian society having declared its appreciation of the American public's support of its concerts, and its readiness to co-operate with the New Music Society of America in its endeavor to further the best interests of creative musical art in this country. Although the chief object of the society will be the production of interesting and important novelties by native composers, the opportunity presented by the co-operation of the Russian Symphony Orchestra will be improved by the performance of American compositions that have already won recognition.

Profit by Mistakes.

Harper's Weekly.

New Year's is upon us again. Let us take up the line of march and make the best progress we can through another year. Humanity does not shape an edifying course. Day after day, year after year, it blunders along, as any day's history spelt out in the newspaper will attest. To blunder along seems to be about the best the best of us can do, either as individuals or as a nation. It is not ideal, but it will answer, if so be we can keep pointed in the right direction and proceed in a sagacious spirit, sharing the road with the rest of the folks, and not less compassionate of their deviations than of our own. The greatest goals that men have reached they have reached by being stronger than their mistakes. So it was with Lincoln; so with Washington. The great difference between wayfarers, besides the disparity in locomotive power, is that some manage to hold to the right direction and to maintain in spite of blunders the essential spirit. That sort invariably get somewhere where it is worth while to arrive. For the others, speed is nothing if the direction is not right. And to carry along a great load of baggage is far less advantageous than it might be if our job was a permanent job, and if every man of us was not under contract to drop every shred he has and run whenever his hour strikes.

Realism.

Puck.

It was the 1st of January when a stranger entered the offices of Pushup's Monthly Magazine.

"Gracious, but it is hot in here!" he remarked to a man in his shirt sleeves, who was mopping his face with a handkerchief.

"Some," was the terse reply of the man who was no other than the famous editor himself.

"What are all those flowers, straw hats and palm-leaf fans scattered about for?"

"Oh, to give a touch of realism; we are now preparing our great Midsummer Fiction Number," was the great editor's kindly reply.

Never Handled Oxen.

Harper's Weekly.

The farmer folk of Iowa say that while Edwin H. Blashfield, the New York artist, may know all about painting, he evidently doesn't know much about driving a yoke of oxen, or he never would have put the driver on the right side, instead of the left, as he has done in the mural decoration he has just placed in the State Capitol at Des Moines. The commission which is in charge of the work is reported as being really in doubt as to whether it should accept the work as it stands.

MINING INDUSTRY SHOWS MARKED ADVANCEMENT

Improved Methods Increase Output of Gold in Western States to Remarkable Extent, Old Claims Which Were Abandoned Now Being Worked With Profit—California, Pioneer Gold State, Continues to Produce More of the Precious Metal Every Year.

NEED CAPITAL FOR INVESTMENT IN UNDEVELOPED CLAIMS.

By Charles G. Yale.
United States Geological Survey, San Francisco.

While in the tier of States comprising California, Nevada, Oregon and Washington, with the exception of Nevada, mining is not now the foremost occupation of the people, it continues to be a very important factor in their industrial progress. Moreover, especially in California and Nevada, the mining industry is showing marked advancement from year to year, not only in increased number of mines opened and worked, but in constantly growing value of annual output. The interest centers mainly in the gold-mining features, few silver mines being operated in these States at the present time.

Although California is the pioneer of all the Western mining States in the production of gold, where mining has been going on since 1848, it still continues to make a large annual output of gold, coming only second to Colorado in this respect. The last available official statistics place the annual gold production of the State at about $19,000,000, which showed an increase of nearly $2,000,000 output over the previous year. California is, therefore, shown to be increasing her gold product, and for the year 1905 it is probable that the record, when completed, will show twenty millions as the gold yield.

IMPROVEMENTS INCREASE OUTPUT.

This is in a measure due to improved methods of working the placer deposits of low-grade gravels which previous to the last five or six years were untouched. The invention of the mining dredge has solved this problem, since with these machines with ground with no "fall" or available dump for tailings and with material worth as low as 10 cents per cubic yard profitable mining can be done.

The ground handled by these machines could not be worked by the hydraulic process, and is generally too poor to be "drifted." In the former water under high pressure is thrown through nozzles against the banks and the gravel broken up and washed away, the gold being saved in suitable appliances. The method involves expensive water systems, including reservoirs, ditches, pipe lines, etc., and there must be a grade away from the mine to carry off the resultant debris or tailings. In this system the entire bank must be washed away, useless top dirt and all, down to the bedrock.

In the drifting system tunnels and drifts are run and only the lower and richer stratum of gravel close to bedrock is removed and washed. By this method only high grade gravel can be profitably worked. The dredges, however, can be worked on flat ground with no fall or dump, and no head of water and no tunnels or drifts are necessary.

A pit is dug, a hull or boat built on it, in which the digging machinery is placed, and water enough to float the dredge let in, unless there is enough surface seepage water. The machine then digs to a depth of from thirty to sixty-five feet, lifting the gold-bearing material high enough above the hull to permit its passing through the screens and gold-saving appliances, and the tailings pass out behind. Then, as the dredge digs ahead, increasing its pit as it goes, the space behind is filled with the tailings.

In effect, then, the machine carries its floating space around with it, digging a new space constantly and filling in where it has once dug. There are now in California between forty-five and fifty of these mining dredges at work, and they average a gross output per year, large and small, of about $55,000 each, working ground which could not otherwise be mined profitably. Each machine costs from $65,000 to $90,000, according to capacity.

The average dredge will handle from 3,000 to 3,000 cubic yards per day, and the cost per cubic yard is generally from five to seven cents. A record of one machine last year, which handled 3,310 cubic yards per day, was 2.36 cents per cubic yard for one month. This was a new machine, with no costs for repairs or renewals.

Many new dredges are in course of construction, and it is expected that within a few years their combined output in California will reach to between five and seven millions of dollars annually. There are, however, limitations to their work, and they cannot handle the old hydraulic mining deposits or the drift deposits in the old buried river channels. These will still have to be worked by the old systems. Both hydraulic and drift mines continue to be worked in California, but the annual output from the dredges is greater than from these combined.

RICH QUARTZ DEPOSITS.

The largest amount of the increased output of the State continues to be from the quartz deposits. Mines of this character are being worked in thirty out of fifty-seven counties of the State, while dredging is being done in only six counties. These quartz properties are now yielding at the rate of about thirteen and a half millions a year, and this output is gradually and slowly increasing. There are 474 producing quartz mines in California, and more than 1,100 more on which active work is being done. There are more than 700 producing gravel mines of all classes, and there are 400 more being worked.

The increase in output from quartz mines is due to more extensive development in the older mines, and cheapened methods of both mining and milling, as well as the discovery and opening of new properties each year. All the larger operations are carried on by companies able to equip them with suitable machinery. Much larger mills are used than formerly and more capital is being put into initial operations.

There were nearly two and a half million tons of quartz crushed in California in 1904. This year the dryness of the season has caused the temporary stoppage of work for a month or more in the mining countries, as there was a lack of water power, due to the drying up of the streams. The hydraulic mines, too, could not start up until the rains came in December, all of which will have an effect on the gold output for 1905.

But California is not now a gold State only. There are being produced in that State at present forty-five substances of the mineral world, and the value of the mineral product of the State now reaches nearly forty-four millions of dollars a year. This includes precious metals, nonmetallic substances, hydrocarbons and structural materials. Last year the increase in value of all these things over the previous year was more than six million dollars.

CALIFORNIA'S PETROLEUM YIELD.

Nearly thirty million barrels of petroleum are now produced in the State every year, and California now leads all other States in output of this material. It turns out about four million dollars' worth of copper yearly now, and several new smelters are being erected. The quicksilver produced is worth more than a million a year.

Some substances are not elsewhere produced in this country, notably borax and magnesite. For ten years the mineral output of the State has been increasing more than two million dollars a year, and in 1904 the increase was more than six million dollars.

So the California mining industry is in a progressive stage, contrary to the general impression. It is expected that the output of 1905 will reach $45,000,000 for the mineral products. Out of the fifty-seven counties only two in the State make no mineral output. Gold is still, of course, the principal mining product, and the State has yielded more than fifty-two per cent of all the gold of the United States since 1792. Since mining was commenced in California, in 1848, the average output of gold has been $23,250,000 per annum, the total output being about $1,414,000,000.

MINING IN NEVADA.

The State of Nevada is rapidly coming to the front as a gold producer and is for the first time in many years showing a decided increase in its annual output. In 1904 the increase of gold output over the previous year was about two million dollars, and this year a much larger increase is expected to be shown when the final figures are made up.

There are about 100 producing mines in Nevada. Most of the increase in output is due to the new camp of Goldfield in Esmeralda County, whence large quantities of high grade ore are being shipped to the reduction works. This and the other "desert" camps of Tonopah, Bullfrog, etc., are rapidly coming to the front as producing sections which give every indication of permanence. More extensive development is now going on and greater depths are being attained in the more prominent mines. There are several large producers at Tonopah, and reduction works of good size are being erected.

It was at first supposed that these desert camps of Nevada, though rich ore was shown at the surface, had no mines that would "go down," but this has been disproven, the ore at depth proving as rich as at the surface. In fact, in many prominent claims nothing of value was found until they had sunk 700 or 800 feet. The ore shipped this year has been of wonderful value per ton, being much higher than any of the average values from camps hitherto discovered. Of course there is still much undeveloped ground, the owners of which lack the capital for the necessary development work.

ATTRACTS MINING WORLD.

The result of the discoveries in these camps has been to attract the attention of the mining world to Nevada, and mines in many of the old and partly-abandoned districts are being reopened and worked. Both Nye and Esmeralda counties now exceed Storey County in annual product, although the latter county, where the Comstock mines are situated, is turning out a million and a half gold and silver a year. Renewed interest is being taken in the Comstock, and important developments are now going on there, particularly in the way of freeing the mines of water, so as to again get at the deeper levels.

While, in 1904, the gold output of the State but slightly exceeded $4,000,000, so large have been the shipments from the newer camps that the final figures for 1905 should show nearly double this. The State last year produced in gold, silver, copper and lead more than $7,500,000, but, as stated, for 1905 a large increase will doubtless be apparent.

The State of Oregon in 1904 produced gold, silver, copper, lead and platinum valued at more than $1,500,000. In gold no increase in output is shown. Most of the gold is from quartz properties, although there are only eighty-four producing ones in the State, while there are more than two hundred producing placers, including hydraulic and other forms of gravel mining. Two or three dredges are at work. Some new smelters have lately been blown in which will doubtless stimulate development in certain districts. Baker continues to be the most productive gold county of the State, followed next by Josephine.

IN OREGON AND WASHINGTON.

There are few very large producing properties in Oregon, as may be noted from the total yield. Lack of necessary capital is given as the reason for this, as there are plenty of known mines in the State which only need development to become producers.

The State of Washington shows no present signs of any marked increase from its mines. Transportation facilities are inadequate, and as many of the larger mines produce smelting ore it must be sent away for reduction. There are not more than sixty producing properties in Washington, including quartz and placer claims, and the entire output of gold, silver, copper and lead is only a little over half a million dollars a year. There are many hundreds of undeveloped prospects only requiring capital to become productive.

It may truly be said that the greatest need of all these States is capital for investment in undeveloped claims. Those which have been brought to a productive stage are readily sold either wholly or in shares of stock, but by far the larger number of claims are still only partly developed, and it is difficult to obtain the necessary money to make mines out of them.

VALENTINE REVIEWS THE YEAR IN GRAIN

Armour Company's President Says Feature in 1905 Was Increased Home Consumption.

BY A. I. VALENTINE.
President Armour Grain Company.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—The feature of the year in grain is the increased home consumption. Prices started out very high for wheat, and were well maintained until late in the spring, when the outlook for the growing crop seemed most favorable. Corn and oats both averaged good prices, and at the end of the old-crop year, and before the new crop was harvested, old stocks were practically exhausted of wheat, corn and oats, and with prices so advantageous to buyers it is not strange that the marketings of the new crop were well taken care of. At no time have stocks been burdensome to the trade. The fall weather was of the best, and this enabled the farmers to garner and ship their grain under most favorable circumstances.

FIGURES TOO HIGH.

The crop this year is a good one, although I personally doubt the extreme figures given out by the Government. My estimate of the total crop of winter and spring wheat would be 650,000,000 bushels, and of corn about 2,500,000,000, which is considerably less than the Government estimate, and still leaves a good crop of both cereals, the quality being superior to last year.

Government figures on oats and rye are about right, in my opinion.

Our prices have started in so low and so much of the grain has already found its market I think the minimum prices for the coming year have already been reached. When we consider the shortage in Europe in wheat, rye, oats and fruit, the poor outlook in India, the shortage in the rice crop in the Orient and consequent demand for wheat, and the already large marketings of Manitoba wheat for export, I feel convinced that the new year will begin with higher prices and even greater prosperity for our farmers.

REVIVAL OF EXPORTS.

Although the exports of grain during the first half of 1905 were of small amounts, excepting corn, which was shipped in fair quantity compared to many previous years, in the last half of the year, beginning in July, there were many signs of revival of exports in all commodities. Between July 1 and December 2 reports show double the amount of wheat, flour, corn and barley shipped as compared with the previous year. The exports of rye and oats greatly exceeded the above in comparison with the previous year.

The cause for this increase is familiar to the trade, namely, the curtailment of feeding crops in Eastern Europe, with lighter yields in Germany and other importing countries.

EXPORT TO GERMANY.

Demand for export to Germany was enhanced because of the remodification of the tariffs and the new increased rates that are expected to be in vogue on and after March 1, 1906, which will of course check the shipments until markets become adjusted.

Shortage in the Volga districts of Russia caused a demand for the wheat known here as "durum," or macaroni wheat, to be supplied to the Latin countries and to the North American ports which are dependent upon Russian supplies and need to a greater or less extent this class of wheat for the manufacture of macaroni products and paste. At least 8,000,000 bushels of this wheat has been shipped to Mediterranean ports, a hitherto unheard-of condition, and it remains to be seen whether in this development of trade a continuous outlet for these qualities may be found.

UNITED KINGDOM'S DEMAND.

A peculiar situation has developed during this season as to the shipments of wheat, namely, the Continental markets have been absorbing larger quantities than the United Kingdom marts, while other years' statistics would show larger amounts were distributed to the United Kingdom. Prices there, owing to this competition, have ruled several points better than last year, despite the abnormally high figures which prevailed in American markets during the corresponding time in 1904.

Great Britain has been favored in securing Manitoba grades because of the difference in tax demand in Germany.

The consumption in the United Kingdom has shown a marked increase during the last two or three years, and this combined with our own marked increase has created an anxiety on the part of English importers especially to find attractive land in the Northern and Southern hemispheres in order that they shall not be compelled to accept United States dictation as to prices.

Manitoba has increased her acreage as well as Argentine, while India's has been reduced because of unfavorable prospects. All eyes are now turned on the present conditions on the Platte, and wheat prices will depend for the moment on favorable or unfavorable prospects developed in that section from day to day.

Manitoba wheats have been shipped rather freely to the United Kingdom for reasons already explained, and the balance of the large crop, estimated at [illegible],000,000, will be held at prices dependent upon the outlook, which develops in the near future in the other wheat-growing countries.

OUTLOOK FOR FULL PRICES.

Altogether, the outlook is in favor of full prices being realized, and the commercial value of wheat is hardly expected to return to the level of average which prevailed prior to 1903.

The Government estimates the crop of wheat of 1905 at about [illegible] bushels, which compares with 748,000,000 in 1901, [illegible] in 1902, and [illegible] in 1904. In 1901 the population of the United States was about 81,000,000, compared with more than 84,000,000 now. The per capita estimate of consumption is figured from five to six bushels, and on the basis of five and a half bushels, together with seed requirements, the necessity for large exports for the balance of the crop year is not now apparent.

A prominent feature of the Minneapolis and Northwestern country markets has been the liberal premiums paid for cash wheat over near-by futures during the period of heavy wheat movement. This reflects a very healthy and legitimate condition of the market.

FLOUR DEMAND HEAVY.

The flour demand has been unusually heavy, as shown by the large output of mills. Even now these mills are sold ahead from four to six weeks.

Unless the market rules very much higher than at the present time, I hardly think farmers will sell the balance of their crop freely, and in any event do not look for more than 40,000,000 bushels of wheat to be carried over as reserves in farmers' hands at the end of the crop year. With poor conditions in the Argentines from now on, even this amount is likely to be reduced. Private estimates at this time show about 65 per cent of the spring wheat already marketed by farmers, and 75 per cent of the winter.

We should begin the new year with our farmer in a very strong position. He is better off to-day than he ever was in the history of the country. This means prosperity to all. A. I. VALENTINE.

VISITORS AT ST. LOUIS HOTELS

—W. Berini of New York is stopping at the same hotel.

—S. H. Clift of New York City is quartered at the Planters.

—R. T. Gibbs of Shreveport, La., is a guest at the Southern.

—L. C. Gillette of Dawson, N. M., has rooms at the Southern.

—Charles P. Elliott of New York is a guest at the Jefferson.

—William Bolles of Baldwin, N. Y., is a guest at the Southern.

—Mr. and Mrs. E. A. White of Denver, Colo., are registered at the New St. James.

—Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Brown of Boston, Mass., are guests at the New St. James.

—W. H. Russell of New York and R. A. Bater of Chicago are stopping at the Laclede.

—Among the arrivals at the Jefferson yesterday were Walter Wiley and wife of Galveston, Tex.

—Editor Charles L. Woods of Rolla, Mo., arrived in St. Louis yesterday and put up at the Laclede.

—Benjamin Howard of New York and Charles A. Bradler of Butte, Mont., are stopping at the same hotel.

—M. J. Gepfort of Racine, Wis., and R. B. Collins of New Albany, Ind., are among the guests at the Planters.

—B. A. Martinez, an instructor in Spanish and mathematics in one of the colleges in Mexico City, Old Mexico, who is making a tour of the United States, registered yesterday at the Moser.

Missourians in New York.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

New York, Dec. 31.—Among the arrivals at the hotels to-day were the following from Missouri:

St. Louis—J. A. McCown, J. D. [illegible], B. Cook, Marlborough; A. Belig, C. [illegible], Cadillac; Miss Wood, Mrs. H. D. Wood, Manhattan; G. Carey and Mrs. Carey, Miss M. Carey, Hoffman; N. J. McBrery, [illegible] T. Silverthorne, Waldorf; S. P. Yeomans, Holland; H. M. Young, Fifth Avenue; H. J. Piper and Mrs. Piper, Hotel Astor.

Kansas City—H. B. Minty, W. [illegible], E. Jones, Manhattan; Mrs. G. H. [illegible], Imperial; W. G. Basinger, Marlboro.

DIXON'S "CLANSMAN" SCORED.

New York Rabbi Demands in Sermon That Book Be Suppressed.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

New York, Dec. 31.—"The Clansman," as a book and as a play, was severely denounced to-day by the Reverend Doctor Joseph Silverman in his morning lecture at the Temple Emanuel. Doctor Silverman declared that "The Clansman" as a novel, possessed neither merit nor interest, and was neither history or fiction.

As a play, Doctor Silverman said "The Clansman" was without a redeeming feature, and had proved neither amusing nor instructive. After having read the book, Doctor Silverman said he felt as though he had participated in a literary lynching of the negro. But one side of the negro's character had been presented.

"The Clansman" was an attempt to interfere with Providence, and to turn back the wheels of progress. It was a crime to resurrect the specters of issues dead for forty years.

"This is the season of universal good will to mankind," said Rabbi Silverman. "Shall the new year open with a play that preaches 'Hate thy black brother and expel him?'

"Therefore, in the name of our common Father, and for the welfare of our common country, I demand that 'The Clansman' as a play be withdrawn from the boards, and the book from circulation."

Knew Her Grammar.

The Judge's little daughter, although she had talked several times through the telephone to her father, had never gone through the formalities necessary in calling him up. The first time she tried it, relates the Youth's Companion, she took the receiver off the hook, as she had seen others do, placed her lips to the transmitter and said:

"Hello! I want to talk to papa."

"Number, please?" answered Central.

"Singular," she answered, surprised at the question, but proud that she knew something of the rudiments of grammar.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO TO-DAY IN ST. LOUIS.

From The Republic of Jan. 2, 1881.

The Strakosch & Hess English opera company opened the theatrical season of the year at the Grand Opera House in "Aida," Marie Rose taking the title part.

Colonel J. N. Paramore's visit to New York was reported as having resulted in the formation of a syndicate which appropriated $6,000,000 for the proposed Texas and St. Louis Line.

Changes in the various church choirs of the city excited great interest. One of the changes was that of Miss Fannie Flesh, who left the Pilgrim and entered the St. John's Methodist choir.

Floors in the building at No. 617 North Second street collapsed to the basement. The structure was occupied by the Barstow & Whitelaw white lead works, and much damage to property resulted.

Bishop Dunlop, the newly appointed Bishop of Arizona and New Mexico, returned to the city for a New Year visit, after six weeks spent in his new pastorate.

Policemen Wall and Burroughs tried to aid a well-dressed man, who dropped in a faint at the Union Station, but he died before they could obtain assistance.

Coroner Frank swore in Herman Praedicow as his deputy and spent New Year's Day holding five inquests.

Alex Frasier was elected chief of Clan Campbell, Scottish Clans, and C. Cameron was chosen as vice chieftain.

The Y. M. C. A. announced that Bishop Bowman would preach in their new building on Pine street.

Juvenile guests at the Beaumont flats entertained the older occupants with a play. In the cast were Misses Carrie Scott, May Klippingworth, Edna McBeth and Minerva Gartt, and Messieurs Chouteau Scott and Henry Williamson.

The Book of St. Louisans.

This work, now in course of preparation by The Republic, will aim to present in a brief, succinct and yet complete manner, authentic life-sketches of all the leading men of the metropolis of the great Southwest who are now living.

These sketches will in no case partake of the nature of eulogies or puffs, but will be plain, simple statements of fact, comprising only such data as will be of general interest and make the book of value as a work of reference. Not a line of paid matter will be printed in the volume, and the insertion of personal data will in no case be contingent upon a subscription. The book will be sold wholly upon its intrinsic merit, and the price has been fixed at $12.50.

Thanks are due to all who have kindly furnished information or otherwise aided in the laborious task of collation of the voluminous array of facts necessary to make this undertaking a success.